

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6720**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 400

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 19, 2009

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 17, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Explanation of Proposed Constitutional Amendments.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Dillon

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Welch

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed Senate

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) The bill requires the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) to prepare, and the Legislative Council to approve, a neutral summary of any proposed state constitutional amendment, distribute a copy of the summary to various entities, and post the summary on the General Assembly's Internet web site not later than 60 days before the election at which the proposed amendment is submitted to the voters. The bill provides that the summary submitted by the LSA shall be distributed, if the LC does not approve a summary in a timely manner. The bill requires a copy of the summary to be posted at each polling place. The bill subject to the LC's approval, provides that the LSA has absolute discretion to determine the contents of the summary, and prohibits the bringing of an action based on the exercise of this discretion.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2009.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) The LSA, Legislative Council, and Election Division would be able to carry out these additional responsibilities with existing resources and staff.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** County election boards would need to forward copies of amendment summaries to precinct inspectors. County election boards would be able to accomplish this provision with existing resources and staff.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** LSA, LC, Election Division.

**Local Agencies Affected:** County election boards.

**Information Sources:** State Budget Agency: *FY 2008 General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries*.

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